



# The Citizen Extra.

**FRIDAY, June 8th, 1866.**

## Opening of the First Parliament in Ottawa.

APPEARANCE OF THE CITY.

DESCRIPTION OF THE INTERIOR OF  
THE BUILDINGS.

THE GALLERIES CROWDED TO EXCESS.

LIST OF MEMBERS PRESENT.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

At length the day for the opening of the First Parliament in Ottawa, so long and anxiously awaited, has arrived, and as our report will show, the sanguine anticipations of the friends of Ottawa as the Seat of Government, have been fully realized, while the oft expressed doubts and predictions of its opponents have been satisfactorily disproved. It is a day of victory and rejoicing, not for this city alone, but for every British subject under the sun, to whom the accomplishment of Her Majesty's wishes, however slight, is always matter of rejoicing, and to whom moreover, the progress of Canada, as to-day manifested, is synonymous with the advancement of the mother country herself.

Had this memorable event occurred at a time when the country was not thrown into the excitement and troubles of war, and when the people were at leisure to share in a general enjoyment, this would have been a public holiday, and Ottawa would have been far more densely crowded than it is. At an early hour in the morning the Union Jacks, Red Cross Banners, and Tricolors, were spread to the breeze, giving that gay appearance to the City which, on the unforgotten visit of His Royal Highness, gained the approbation of the Canadian press. Hundreds of strangers mingled with citizens and country people,

last Session of Parliament, I convened, by instructions from the Secretary of State of Colonies, a Council of Trade including representatives from the different provinces of British North America,

I have directed the proceedings of this Body to be laid before you.

I shall direct to be laid before you the papers relating to the termination of the Reciprocity Treaty with the United States of America, and the negotiations on the subject of our commercial relations with that country.

It has now become still more imperative to open by an extension of the trade of the country with other nations new markets for the varied products of our industry.

In consequence of the notice for the termination of the Reciprocity Treaty, I deemed it needful, with the assent and approbation of Her Majesty's Government to send a deputation represented colonies of British North America, during the winter to the West Indies and Brazil, to ascertain the best means of developing and extending commercial relations with those countries. The period at which the delegation returned from their mission is so recent that no Report could as yet have been presented, but as soon as received it will be communicated to you.

The threats and preparations for attack on Canada constantly and openly made by a body organized in the United States of America, and known as 'Fenians,' compelled me, since Parliament rose, by the advice of my Ministers, to call out a large portion of the Volunteer Militia Force of the Province.

The spirit displayed by the people, and their ready response to my Proclamation have received the well merited approval of Her Majesty's Government.

The events which have occurred within the last few days offered additional proofs of the necessity for the precautionary measures adopted.

The Province has been invaded by a lawless band of marauders, but I congratulate the country that they were promptly confronted, and within twenty-four hours compelled to make a precipitate retreat.

I deplore that loss of life and property.

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to the City which, on the forgotten visit of His Royal Highness, gained the approbation of the Canadian press. Hundreds of strangers mingled with citizens and country people, thronging the streets, in joyous expectancy of the appointed hour. For a while dense overhanging clouds threatened a heavy rain shower, but before noon the sky was thoroughly clear, and gave promise of favorable weather.

For days past the workmen have assiduously striven to place both the Council and Assembly Chambers in at least a respectable condition for the opening. Those who are acquainted with the minute details of finishing and the large amount of it to be done, will wonder at the extraordinary energy displayed by those who had the matter to look after in concluding all necessary arrangements within the buildings. Of course, to do this some regard had to be shown to the conviction of the surroundings. While in some party the most elaborate finishings and ornamentation were completed in others

were remedied and the interior of both halls were in a great measure, in appearance, in keeping with the magnificent outside and the inside surroundings before described.

No Canadian, especially no resident of the Capital, who was present, we are sure, but felt a glowing pride at the extent and beauty of our Government houses. Certainly they stand unequalled in points of extent and architectural beauty on the continent.

From an early hour those who were favored with tickets of admission were crowding into the galleries; and long before the appointed time for the appearance of His Excellency these places were filled to excess—not alone with the beauty and elite of Ottawa, but with persons from every part of the Provinces.

At two o'clock precisely a salute from the cannons announced the arrival of His Excellency Lord Monck, who proceeded in state to the Chamber of the Legislature Council.

Bell's Corners Infantry, Capt. W.F. Powell, formed the guard of honor, and the Volunteer force lined the road to the main entrance as follows: Ottawa Garrison Battery, No. 2, Capt. Ross, Bunkingham Infantry, Capt. McNaughton; Hawkesbury Infantry, Lieut. Ogden; Civil Service Rifles, Capt. Anderson. The two Companies of Cadets were posted inside the Buildings.

The members being assembled, His

less band of marauders, but I congratulate the country that they were promptly confronted, and within twenty-four hours compelled to make a precipitate retreat.

I deplore the loss of life and the sufferings which have been entailed upon the gallant body of the Canadian Volunteers in the engagement which took place in repelling so promptly the invaders who had attacked the country; and I feel assured that you will not omit to alleviate, as far as may be in your power, the miseries so wantonly inflicted on many families. But while I grieve for their individual loss, I must congratulate the country that the first note of danger has shown that Canada possesses in her volunteers, a body of men ready to peril their lives in defence of their Queen and Country.

The entire people have been thoroughly aroused by recent occurrences, and it must now be apparent to all that the whole resources of the country, both in men and means, will at any moment be cheerfully given in repelling any invasion of their homes.

In the measures of defence which I have been called upon to take, I have received the unremitting support of the Lieut.-General Commanding, and of Admiral Sir James Hope. It is also a source of unfeigned pleasure to me to acknowledge the gallant defence of the Canadian Forces in Canada.

I am happy to be able to state that the President of the United States has issued a Proclamation declaring that serious infractions of the laws of that country have been and are being committed by evil disposed persons within the Territory and Jurisdiction of the United States, against the British Possessions in North America, and requiring all officers of his Government to exert every effort for their repression. I trust that the course thus adopted will ere long prevent this country from being subjected to further attacks from the citizens of a nation on terms of amity with Great Britain.

The maintenance of a Force on active duty which the Government has been compelled to call out, has involved an Expenditure to a large amount which was not provided for by the votes of last Session.

The accounts of this Expenditure will be specially laid before you, and I feel confident you will immediately pass a Bill indemnifying the Government for the unavoidable departure from the provisions of the Audit Act.

Recent occurrences show the necessity of extending to Lower Canada the Act, Cap. 98, Consolidated Statutes for Upper Canada, to protect the inhabitants of that section of the Province against lawless aggression from subjects of Foreign Countries at peace with Her Majesty. It has also been necessary for the preservation of law and order, to adopt a course similar to that taken at the present session of the Imperial Parliament, for the temporary suspension of the writ of Habeas Corpus. I invite your immediate consideration of these necessary measures.

I have fixed, by Proclamation, the first day of August next as the time which the

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The members being assembled, His Excellency was pleased to command the attendance of the Legislative Assembly, who were present as follows:—

Archambault, Bell, Bellerose, Biggar, Bourassa, Bowman, Boonsseau, Brown, Burwell, J H Cameron, Carling, Cauchon, Chambers, Chapais, Cornellier, Cowan, Currier, D E Bonchesville, J B Dorion, Duckett, Dufresne, Dunkin, Dunsford, Fergusson, Fortier, Gagnon, Gaucher, Gaudet, Holton, Houde, D F Jones, Knight, La-Breche, Viger, Lajoie, LeBoutillier, D A Macdonald, C. McGee, Hon. T. D. McGee, McIntyre, Morris, Angus Morrison, Munro, McMonies, Pouliot, Poupore, Powell, Rankin, Raymond, Rose, Rebiteille, Soss, (Dundas), Rymal, Scoble, Shanly, Smith, J. S. Sturton, Street, Sylvain, Tremblay, Walbridge, Wells, White, Willson, Wright, Alonzo, Wright Amos.

His Excellency was then pleased to open the Fifth Session of the Eighth Parliament of the Province of Canada with the following

#### SPEECH FROM THE THRONE: ¶

*Honorable Gentle of the Legislative Council; Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:*

I am happy again to avail myself of your advice in carrying on the Government, and I trust that you will find in the magnificent buildings erected in the city chosen by Her Majesty as the Seat of Government, increased facilities for the despatch of public business, while they will prove adequate to the great of this country.

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jects of Foreign Countries at peace with Her Majesty. It has also been necessary for the preservation of law and order, to adopt a course similar to that taken at the present session of the Imperial Parliament, for the temporary suspension of the writ of Habeas Corpus. I invite your immediate consideration of these necessary measures.

I have fixed, by Proclamation, the first day of August next as the time which the Civil Code of Lower Canada, passed in the last Session of Parliament, shall come into operation.

The Code of Civil procedure of Lower Canada, as reported by the Commissioners, shall be submitted for your adoption during the Session.

*Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:*

I have desired the financial accounts for the present year and the estimates of expenditure for the next year shall be laid before you.

I congratulate you upon the very satisfactory results of the commerce of the country during the past year; the revenue has been so largely in excess with the estimates as to enable me, without inconvenience, to provide for the heavy and unexpected charges entailed upon the country.

*Honorable Gentlemen and Gentlemen:*

The position which the great question of the Union of the Provinces of British North America has assumed is now such as to induce the expectation that the measure will shortly be carried into effect. I therefore hope and believe that it will be found practicable during the present session to adopt such proceedings as may be necessary for completing the details of the scheme as regards this Province, and I venture to express the confident expectation that the next Parliament which will be held within these walls will not be confined to an assembly of the Representatives of Canada, but will embrace those of all the colonies of British North America.

I am happy to be able to congratulate you on the general prosperity which pervades all classes of the community in the Province, and I pray that your Councils may be guided by Divine Providence to secure that which is the true end of all Government, the moral and material advancement of the great body of the people.